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WOOD ARGUS

WELCOME ALUMNI

MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, BROOKLYN, N. Y. December 22, 1959

Wechsler Addresses High School Press; Defends Tabloids

By HARRIET WARSHAUER

The N. Y. Post editor, James Wechsler, spoke about "Youth and the Press", December 2, 1959. Mr. Wechsler addressed a meeting of the High School Press Council in the auditorium of the N. Y. School of Printing.

Mr. Wechsler defended the Post's

Mr. James Wechsler

reporting news in such a way as to give stories of violence and crime a more important position in the paper than stories concerning politics and world affairs. He said that, "Man is not wholly a cultural and political animal, and that a newspaper which reports only this aspect of life not only gives an unrealistic picture of mankind, but is also a darn dull paper." After his talk, Mr. Wechsler answered student journalists' questions.

Before Mr. Wechsler spoke, four committees of the High School Press Council met with their chairmen and then gave brief committee reports to the assembled high school press delegates.

Harriet Warshauer and Donald Waters represented **The Midwood Argus** at the meeting.

MIDWOOD IN HOLIDAY SPIRIT; TO GREET RETURNING ALUMNI

Midwood celebrates two occasions tomorrow, December 23, Alumni Day and the annual "Winter Festival" assembly program.

The Winter Festival occurs each year before the winter vacation. It consists of a performance by Midwood's musical organizations: the Orchestra, Band, Girls' Chorus, Boys' Chorus and Mixed Chorus. This takes place in both the A.M. and M. Asemblies.

The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Chancy will play the "Unfinished Symphony" by Schubert, "The First Pucciniana Fantasy" and "Marche Militaire" by Saint-Saens.

The band, supervised by Mr. M. Rosenberg, will perform the "Three Dances" from the Gayne Ballet, "Belle of the Ball", and "Sleigh Ride" written by Anderson. An accordian solo, "Accordian to Hoyle", played by Michael Barnett will follow.

The Boys' Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Gottlieb, will harmonize to the spiritual "Rock-A-My Soul", "Dance My Comrades" by Richard Bennett and Kentucky Babe" by Geibel.

The Girls' Chorus, also directed by Mr. Gottlieb will sing "Going-a-Maying" by Nagelli, "My Little Banjo" by Dichmond and "Beautiful Dreamer" by Stephen Foster.

Mixed Chorus, led by Mrs. B. Tillis will sing, "Hallelujah! Praise Ye The Lord" by Lewandowske, "Charm Be a Sleep" arranged by Brahms, "Listen To The Lambs" by Nathaniel Dett, "Song of the Scythe" by S. Cavalleria "Rusticcana" and "Song of the Vagabonds" by Friml. Then the Chorus will sing assorted Christmas Carols.

Present in the building will be alumni of this school. Sometime during the day, they will have a meeting, the subject of which will be "How to Pick the Alumnus of The Year."

In the past, the alumni chose the winner of this title. Last year, the vote was very close. As a result of this, none of the candidates actually won. Those competing included Morty Gunty, Shep Ginandes and Warren Baumgarten.

This happening brought about various ideas for altering the voting procedure. One plan is to have the faculty and a committee of alumni determine the most deserving alumnus.

Councils Set Slate Berman, Plavin and Santulli for Mayor

By JOAN KANE

At primary elections held on November 16 and 17, the A.M., M., and Kensington councils chose the candidates for next term's major City of Midwood offices.

Steve Berman, Dave Plavin, and Linda Santulli are the competitors for the

Candidates for mayor, L. to R.: Steve Berman, Linda Santulli, and Dave Plavin

mayoralty.

The candidates for the office of comptroller are Richie Lapin, Jeffrey Merill and Joe Olewitz.

Rita Ingber, Elizabeth Kline and Ellen Rheinhold are the contenders for the post of executive secretary. Marc Chaikin, Mike Feuer and Sara Rudner are running for the office of Kensington coordinator.

Candidates for 6th term president include Richie Levin, Sarjie Mermelstein and Suzie Nyman. Running for 6th term vice-president are Alice Cashman, Edward Gershbein and Joan Mettler.

Shlomit Grinberg, Anita Levy, Julie Mayer, and Marla Weintraub are the candidates for fourth term president.

The candidates for 2nd term president are Jeff Nagelberg and Saul McHanson, while Nick Basso, Warren Krebs, and Robert Wielig are running for 2nd term vice-president.

UPPER CLASSMEN PREPARE AS COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE NEARS

The Junior and Senior classes of Midwood High School started to prepare for college acceptance several weeks ago.

Midwood High School made several innovations in the Juniors' program of preparation. Two of these are the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, taken for the first time by this year's Junior class, and the Early Acceptance Plan for acceptance into college during the third year of high school. The College Commission held a discussion about the latter on Thursday evening, Dec. 10, in the auditorium. The speaker, a graduate of Harvard, gave a talk entitled, "An 'Alum' Looks at College."

The Early Acceptance Plan is a formal plan for students who are clearly qualified and certain of their choice of a college. These students make only one application under this plan. The student is notified of the college's decision in ample time to make other applications if the early acceptance request is not approved. The successful applicant will benefit by receiving assurance of admission in early December of his Senior year.

The following colleges are now employing "Early Acceptance" as well as their regular plans: Skidmore, Chatham, Duke University, Beaver, Middlebury, Bennington, Saint Lawrence, Pembroke, Cornell University, Brooklyn College, Adelphi, Wellesley, Mount Holyoke, Iona, Wells Allegheny, Cedar Crest, Miami University, Connecticut College, Chicago University, Barnard, Vassar, Smith, Hollins, University of Michigan and Manhattan College. For other information, consult the college office.

The results of the P.S.A.T.'s were not announced as this paper went to press. The tests, a "dry run" preparation for the College Board Scholastic Aptitude Tests, gave students an idea of what the regular "boards" are like. The Preliminary S.A.T. is also used to point out student weaknesses, and thereby help them prepare for the regular "boards."

Next year, the "boards" will include a written essay for the first time.

F.D.R. Picks Fourteen

By ELLEN BERMAN

The F.D.R. commission announced the fourteen names which constitute their nominations for the F.D.R. award. These names were submitted to the councils for the preliminary election today, December 22. The nominees are: John Noel Baker, Pearl Buck, Roy Campanella, Dr. Thomas Dooley, W.E.B. Dubois, Dag Hammerskjold, Oliver La Farge, Father Pyre, Rev. Bob Richards, Jackie Robinson, Bayard Rustin, Daniel Schreiber, Arthur Shusk and Jack Twaiman. As Argus goes to press, the results are not yet announced.

Members of the commission visited the various social studies classes and conducted discussions on the meaning of brotherhood. At the termination of each class, they asked the students to nominate some person whom they considered the most worthy for the brotherhood award this term. Of the ninety six names submitted, the commission chose fourteen, which they will bring up before both the A.M. and M. Councils. The homeroom presidents are then expected to discuss the candidates with their classes to determine the consensus of opinion. They will then vote upon candidates chosen by their respective classes. Students will select the winner from the three names the councils had decided on.

The school will invite the winner to the award assembly which will be held during the spring term. Former winners of the award are Dr. Albert Schweitzer, Danny Kaye, Jessie Owens, and Marian Anderson.

The commission, headed by Harold Barclay and Howard Weinreich, requests that students hand in any ideas that they have concerning the commission's activities. It received a suggestion to allow students who are specifically interested in the award to attend the assembly rather to limit the attendance to the scheduled homerooms. The members of the commission will consider this and other ideas.

The purpose of the commission is to instill a sense of brotherhood in the students. This semester the group instituted the pen-pal system to further its goal. The response to this service has been very favorable and a suggestion has been made to distribute applications each term.

Students View Presentation of 'Inherit the Wind'

By MERLE WEISS

The members of the advanced dramatics class performed a condensed version of "Inherit the Wind" in Midwood's auditorium on Wednesday, December 2nd, 9th and 16th.

Starring in this student production were Richard Barrett and Paul Diamond, who alternated as the defense attorney, Henry Drummond, and Dave Horowitz and Ken Wexley, who alternated as Matthew Brady, an attorney for the prosecution. Sid Auerback, Ellen Cohen, Mike Huss, Billy Mogulescu, Meryl Singer, Esther Spillberg, and Sheila Steiner also had featured roles, while Marion Demas, Jane Issacson and Fran Schwartzman directed the presentation.

"Inherit the Wind", a play which had a successful run on Broadway, is a fictionalized account of the famous Scopes trial of 1925. Written by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, it concerns the trial of a science teacher arrested for teaching Darwin's "Origin of Species", and revolves around the efforts of the opposing attorneys to prove their cases.

City Roundup . . . BOYS IN SHOP FIX TOYS

Midwood home room presidents collected broken and discarded toys from their classmates on December 11, 14, 15.

These toys, once repaired will go to underprivileged children in this city. A group of student volunteers from the industrial arts department made the repairs on these toys. The industrial arts department then sent the gifts to the New York Fire Department which aided in distributing them to needy children throughout Brooklyn.

The Newman Club, a Catholic student organization, sponsored the project. Miss Migliorini of the English department served as faculty advisor.

The two hundred members of Midwood's January graduating class celebrated Senior Day on December 2. The event, which gives the graduates an opportunity to teach classes, has been a Midwood tradition for the life of the school.

The Senior Council planned the occasion under the guidance of Mr. Spieler. Senior president Adele Hoffman was principal for the day, taking the role of Dr. Bernstein. Ethel Kaplan was Mr. Dank, and Irma Laufer, Miss Shore. Over twenty-five other eighth termers participated, substituting for some of the department chairmen and teachers.

On Sunday, December 6, the class enjoyed the traditional Senior Breakfast at Senior's Restaurant.

According to Adele Hoffman, "another important senior activity, the January prom", will take place at Jack Silverman's International.

The Midwood Math Team, which meets every day during the seventh period, is in the top ten of the city wide competition this term.

The team's captain, Harry Saal, is the high scorer of the team with fifteen points. Other members of the starting team are: Eugene Gover, David Harris, David Goodman, David Tischler, Mark Levine, Jeffrey Merril and John Wexler.

The Math Team meets are held alternately at Midwood and Madison. The problems used for the competition are received from the Mathematics Scholastic League.

The Spanish Honor Society held a cultural function in Spanish style during the P.M. home room on Wednesday, December 16.

This term Karen Klein heads the Spanish Honor Society as president; Lorna Greene is vice president; Alice Horowitz secretary; and Carol Derdiger treasurer. Mr. William Jassey is the society's faculty advisor.

Three years ago the Brooklyn Borough Council, made up of students from the various high schools of the borough, sent around a petition requesting an outdoor ice skating rink in Brooklyn.

Some politicians sponsored the bill and the Board of Estimate of the City of New York approved a half million dollars for the erection of such a rink.

Construction of the skating rink, to be located in Prospect Park, will begin next year. The rink will probably be finished some time in 1964.

Maida Weisenthal, Sing Booklet Commissioner, announced that the progress of the Sing Booklet is excellent so far.

The business staff of the booklet collected over $100.00 from outside advertisements. All homerooms received notices asking them to contribute ads. The Sing Booklet commission is sponsoring an "all-out" drive to make this year's booklet the largest and most profitable Midwood has ever published.

Although great progress has been made, Maida says, "We feel we still need more ads to make the booklet a complete success."

The Welfare Commission, headed by Barbara Gasser, began a campaign for CARE on Monday, November 30. The two-week "CARE Drive" ended on December 11.

"Midwood High School students", said Barbara Gasser, "though slow to cooperate at first, proved themselves to be very generous when approached properly."

The commission ran the campaign in conjunction with the National CARE Christmas Drive. This year's campaign goal is to collect three hundred dollars. This is fifty dollars more than the total of last year's receipts.

The Borough Council, a group of student representatives from Brooklyn high schools, is planning a publicity campaign to counteract "adverse and unwarranted" criticism of New York City high school students.

Midwood High School sponsored a Red Cross Drive during the last week of November and the first week of December.

Each home room received either a red or green stocking to be filled with articles for people in hospitals.

Mrs. A. B. Daitz, the teacher in charge of the collection, expressed her gratitude by saying, "We can always count on Midwood students, although they are pressured with many requests."

Grid Dinner Cites Top Varsity Players

The football team held the annual Midwood Football Dinner at Cooky's, Avenue M, on Thursday, December 10th.

There was a fine turnout of members of the team, guests, and parents. Our principal, Dr. Bernstein, the chairman of the boy's health education, Mr. Delaney, and Jimmy Murphy, reporter for the World-Telegram and the Sun, delivered speeches. Mr. Murphy commented on the fine job done by Coach Bill Eisenberg and his able assistant coach, Charles Damiani. Mr. Fried and Mr. M. Cohen were also there to present the awards.

Dr. Bernstein presented his award for a player who excelled in character, scholarship and football ability to Artie Morris.

The Gridiron Club's Award to the player who through determination and a burning desire to play the game, performed with excellence on the field, went to Hugh Dash.

Captain Mitch Garter received the Mort Cohn Award for the outstanding lineman of the 1959 season.

The Coach's Award to the player who gave 100% effort win, lose, or draw, wen to Captain Mike Vulpis.

Mitch Garter, Mike Vulpis, John Clancy, Marty Halloren, Burt Flugman, Artie Morris, and head trainer Harold Goldberg, received gold footballs for having earned two major letters.

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Students See Ibsen's Drama

Seventy-five Midwood students attended the Sunday, December 13 matinee of "An Enemy of the People" at the Actor's Playhouse. The Around New York Commission sponsored the theatre party.

"An Enemy of the People"

The drama is Arthur Miller's adaptation of a play by Henrik Ibsen. It stars Gene Frankel, Al Spuduto and Richard Karp. The latter also produced the show, and is an alumnus of Midwood. The director is Gene Frankel. The drama recently returned to New York after a short run in Boston.

Several English teachers advised their students to see "An Enemy of the People" as a supplement to classwork. Mr. M. Weiss of the math department chaperoned the Midwood group. Students payed $2.00 per ticket, ninety cents less than the usual price.

The Actor's Playhouse, typical of off-Broadway theatres, has a small seating capacity of one hundred and fifty. It is located in Greenwich Village, at 100 Seventh Avenue and Sheridan Square.

Felica Morrison, Around New York commissioner said, "A theatre party is an excellent way of giving as many students as possible the opportunity to attend the theatre with their friends, and to see a worthwhile program at a reduced rate." The event was publicized by posters distributed to the home rooms, and by announcements made over the loud speaker.

Last year, Midwood students saw a play by Arthur Miller, "The Crucible". The play was a failure on Broadway, but was a tremendous success when presented in a small off-Broadway theatre. Many plays lend themselves to this more intimate atmosphere.

Two years ago Midwood students attended an amateur production of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town". It was presented in a small church in Manhattan. A perennial favorite, the drama is presently enjoying a successful off-Broadway run.

Besides the annual City of Midwood sponsored threatre party, students often see plays through their English classes. Last year, groups saw Arthur Laurent's "A Clearing in the Woods," and attended the Shakespeare festival at Hofstra College and again at Stratford, Connecticut.

SENIORS TAKE SCIENCE CONTEST; GIRLS TRY FOR HOMEMAKING PRIZE

Many Midwood seniors took special scholarship tests on December 1 and 2. These examinations, in the fields of science and home economics, were for the Westinghouse Science Talent Search and the General Mills Betty Crocker scholarships.

The Westinghouse examination tested the scientific ability of the candidates. They were also asked to write reports on their scientific projects or research work. Mr. Kesten of the Midwood physical science department aided the candidates in their preparation. Typical projects included "A Visual Representation of All Conic Sections," and "A Study of the Coefficient of Restitution of Two Substances Under Certain Hypothetical Conditions."

Winners will attend the Science Talent Institute in Washington, D.C. from March 3 through March 7. They may then be eligible for stipends as high as 7,500 dollars for a four year college course in science or engineering.

In addition to the forty winners selected by the nation-wide contest, the judging committees will name an Honors Group. The administrators are proud that most of the 5,527 students comprising the Winners and Honors Groups over the past eighteen years "have been offered scholarships from institutions seeking high quality students with proven ability in science." They are also offered summer employment in various scientific capacities.

The Betty Crocker examination tested the ability of girls in the field of home economics. Mrs. Fane of the Home Economics Department administered the test to one hundred students. All senior girls were eligible. The first prize in the nation-wide competition is a five thousand dollar scholarship to any college for study in any field of the winner's choice. The fifty state winners will each receive one thousand five hundred dollar expense-paid trips around the United States with their homemaking teachers.

In the past, Midwood students have had great success in both the Westinghouse and Betty Crocker contests.

"Midwood has always participated in the Westinghouse," said Mr. Kesten, "and has always gained at least honorable mention."

Mrs. Fane noted with pride that Midwood had a state winner in General Mills competition two years ago.

FIFTY-EIGHT PUPILS COMMENDED; ELEVEN IN MERIT SEMI-FINALS

By JOYCE LIEBERMAN

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation awarded fifty-eight Midwood students Letters of Commendation for excellent performances on the Merit Scholarship Exam.

The test, given last May, was a three hour examination covering five areas of educational development. Commendation letters were awarded to 27,000 students all over the United States who did well on the exam but did not place high enough for a scholarship. The fifty-eight Midwood students are:

Carroll McGorkey, Ellen Schaps, Wendy Aronson, Daniel Levine, Katherine Lubart, Howard Weinreich, Merle Weiss, Roger Wolfert, Arthur Ammann, Joseph Kendler, Teddy Lipsenthal, Marsha Berkman, Bruce Musicant, Mary Newell, Carl Shames, Matt Sheinin, Howard Feit, Suzanne Feldman, David Soskis, Marc Chaikin, David Plavin, Janice Winkelman, Stanley Kushel, Stephen Mayer, Carol Ruchlis, Irvin Barnett, Jeffrey Merrill, Harriet Rosen, John Wexler, Michael Barnett, Richard Barnett, Jonathon Chawes, Marc Levine, David Rapaport, James Squire, Jeffrey Weiss, David Fink, Toni Ginsberg, Harold Levine, Ira Sack, Lois Wasserspring, Warren Heller, Alan Katz, Judith Levi, Robert Lewis, Peter Ludwig, Stuart Stern, Gloria Weinberg, Abby Wettan, Barbara Bazura, Paul Diamond, Barbara Prayer, Jeffrey Gerstin, David Horowitz, Roy Meyers, Bruce Miller, Michael Smith and Priscilla Tachman.

Eleven Midwood students did achieve semi-finalist status. As the final competition, the Merit Corporation will consider the college board marks of these students. Certain independent firms offer aid to students who got honorable mention.

MIDWOOD TO ATTEND MODEL U.N.; STUDENTS ORGANIZE COMMITTEE

This year, Midwood will send a delegation to the Third Annual East Coast Model United Nations for Secondary Schools. Horace Mann High School and Hunter College will sponsor the affair which takes place on the weekend of March 25, 1960.

The steering committee of the Model U. N. extended invitations to private and public high schools along the eastern seaboard, to attend the conference. Each school, after accepting the invitation, requested an assignment of one or more foreign countries whose policies the school delegation will support at the convention.

Midwood attended the conference at both of its previous meetings. This year's U.N. Study Group asked to represent the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, India, or Ghana at the model U.N.

Two years ago, Midwood attended the First Annual East Coast Model United Nations as Canada. The committee received an award for outstanding contributions. The chairman of the delegation, alumnus Fred Gise, won an award for outstanding service.

Last year Midwood represented Uruguay and Venezuela. Daniel Levine led the Uruguayan group and alumnus Bruce Jacobs was chairman of the Venezuelan delegation. Daniel Levine received an award for outstanding performance in the General Assembly. Harold Barclay, a member of the Uruguayan delegation, won an award for a resolution he proposed and supported, as a member of the Committee of Southwest Africa. The resolution that Harold worked on differs only slightly from one passed by the actual United Nations.

This year Daniel Levine is chairman and Harold Barclay co-chairman of the U.N. Study Group. Miss R. Gewant and Miss M. Cowen are the faculty advisors.

In the model United Nations, each high school represents a different country of the actual United Nations. The members of the school delegations are assigned to various committees. In these bodies, the delegates represent the policies of the country which their school has adopted. They endeavour to solve problems realistically in the light of the present world situation.

Forman Addresses S. S. Forum

By DONALD WATERS

Mr. Clark Forman of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, an organization dedicated to the preservation of Constitutional Rights, addressed the Social Studies Forum on Friday, December 4. The main topic of his talk concerned his group's opposition to the existence of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Prefacing his remarks concerning this Congressional Committee, Mr. Forman expressed the belief that it is a "part of human nature for a controlling group, once it is in power, to try to eliminate all opposing and minority forces which stand in its way." The speaker cited events in the U.S.-S.R. and Nazi Germany as examples of such activitiy in recent years.

Mr. Clark Forman

Mr. Forman characterized the Un-American Activities Committee as a "witch hunt" which is trying to stamp out all of its opposers by "intimidation and smearing." He said that the lives of many persons who have been unjustly accused of subversive activities by the group have been shattered through loss of jobs and friends. Mr. Forman stated that such experiences can be far worse than jail sentences.

He also claimed that the Committee itself is un-American, because it often violates the first amendment of the Constitution, which, in part, states that Congress does not have the right to prevent the free exercise of religious belief. Mr. Forman believes that Communism is regarded as a type of religion by its followers, even though it is based entirely on materialism, and should be considered under protection of the first amendment.

The speaker stated that his cause gained what he considered a great moral victory when the Un-American Activities Committee recently commenced investigation into reports of possible Communist subversion in Puerto Rico. Under his organization's advice, every one of the thirty-two persons called in for testimony refused to answer any questions asked of them by the committee.

Guest speakers at the forum for this term include a representative from the United Arab Republic, and representative Francis Dorn, Republic Congressman from Brooklyn.

EDITORIAL . . . . . .

Several of us have wondered if it would not be possible for the citizens of Midwood to improve the present system for awarding service credits. Shouldn't the quality of the service rendered be the primary factor in the granting of credits, rather than the amount of time spent on the job?

The method we now use to recognize a student's service seems to be very mechanical. At the end of each term, credit cards are filled out. The number of credits awarded usually depends upon the amount of time spent per week. There is a place provided for rating the student's service. But it seems to be of minor importance.

Many students take advantage of this type of system—where hours count, not tasks performed, when they apply for a job. They calculate the number of hours of service required of them for each credit they will receive. The position they will choose in some cases is the one which demands the least time and energy.

They come to expect that any task performed, no matter how trivial, should bring service credits with it. How often has a teacher asked for a volunteer to assist her after class only to hear from the student, "What do I have to do and how many service credits will I get?"

The quality of the work done by the pupil should become the chief factor in determining the number of service credits he is to receive. Teachers should give a varying number of credits based on the nature of the service. This would encourage the teachers to expect and the students to give the very best service possible. Students would work harder at their jobs and they would experience a greater feeling of pride in what they have accomplished. The pleasure from this experience might even become as important as the desire to receive service credits.

This certainly is a goal worth striving for.

RUTH WALLACH

* * *

In keeping with the holiday season, the Midwood Argus wishes a Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, and a most Joyous New Year to all its readers.

MIDWOOD ARGUS

MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
Brooklyn, New York
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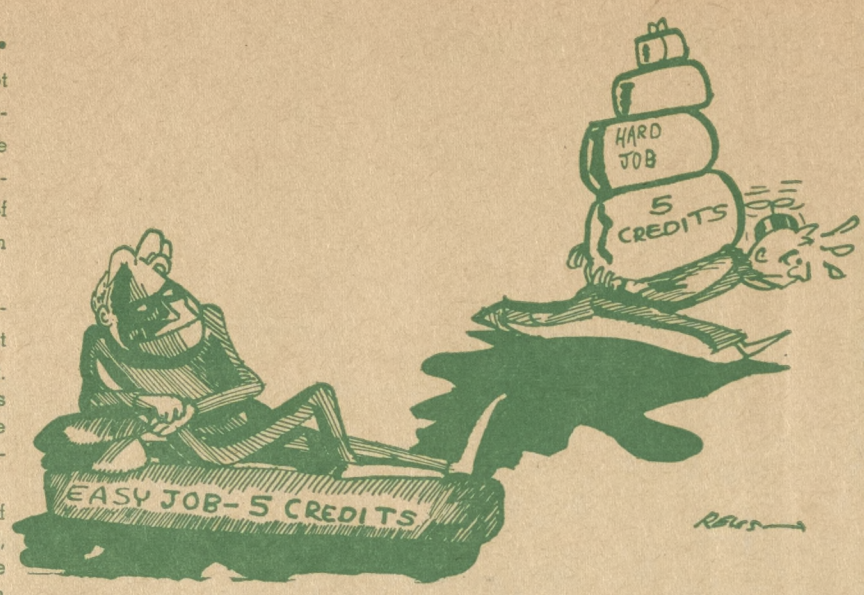

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor of the Midwood Argus;

In my opinion the Midwood Argus should be a general newspaper with general articles. I feel that devoting part of the newspaper to the plans and activities of the Seniors does not belong in the Argus because it is of no interest to any other class but the seniors and therefore belongs in the Senior Weekly. However if the Argus wishes to summarize the plans and activities of an individual class, I feel that the other classes are entitled to equal space.

Elaine Geiger, 119A

To the editor of the Midwood Argus:

Does anyone ever read the suggestions placed in the suggestion box?

One day in early October, I placed a suggestion in the box. I have, not as yet, received a reply or an acknowledgment from the City of Midwood. I am still waiting.

Priscilla Tachman 253A

Editor's note:

We would like to thank Mr. Singer for his concern in keeping our Letters to the Editor department. He had three of his English classes write editorial letters as a homework assignment. As a result, we received approximately eighty letters. One of the above letters was among them.

Wanted: Expert typists and cartoonists for next term. Apply period 8, Room 449.

Mayor's Desk

Periodically we hear complaints about students cheating during tests. Pious pleas for moral integrity usually accompany these revelations; yet the practice continues unabated and usually undetected.

It is obvious, it seems to me that, no amount of threat or cajolery or supplication will eliminate cheating and dishonesty. The pressure placed upon students from parents, teachers, and fellow-students, and our present testing and marking system breed deception, hypocrisy and mockery. As Charles Glicksberg of Brooklyn College wrote: "It is wrong to cheat, but it is right to get good marks. How right is it to get good marks? Right enough to cheat?"

Competitive pressure is a factor inherent in our society and can be alleviated only by a major reversal of trends in society. Elimination of these competitive stresses engendered by the quest for success is, therefore, outside of student government's scope. The method and practice of giving tests themselves, however, could be subject to the City of Midwood's scrutiny and recommendations.

The question of cheating on tests is one of ethics, and, as such, the solution should be based upon a reaffirmation of the individual's integrity and ethical conscience. I do not have space to outline a possible remedy to the problem of student cheating. In the next issue of "Argus" I will, however, elaborate on such a remedy: an (unproctored) Honor System of taking tests. If you wish to discuss this matter with me, please do not hesitate to see me in B-71, period 7 and on, or drop a note in my envelope in B-71. Thank you.

Principal's Message

Dear Boys and Girls:

Because a number of students and parents fail to appreciate the remarkable service and record of our municipal colleges, I reproduce below, an editorial published in one of our newspapers;

"The Board of Higher Education's report on the contribution by our municipal colleges in giving scholars and scientists to the nation should make New Yorkers proud. From 1936 to 1956, City, Brooklyn, Hunter and Queens Colleges produced twice as many graduates who went on to receive doctoral degrees as would be expected on the basis of their percentage of the national college enrollment. The four colleges, which grant abot 2 per cent of all Bachelor degrees in the nation, produced about 4 percent of the graduates who later received doctorates during those two decades.

"The municipal college system was second only to the University of California in the total number of undergraduates who went on to doctorate-level scholarly and scientific studies. In four categories—education, the social sciences, mathematics and the physical sciences—the municipal system led all colleges in the number of graduates who later received doctorates. In arts and the humanities, it was second, and in the biological sciences, it was third. At a time when trained scholars and scientists are so important to the nation's welfare and survival, this is a record at which to point with pride."

You and your parents should deem it a privilege and an honor when admission to a municipal college is achieved; and you should aim, from the very beginning of your high school course, to meet its standards for admission.

Sincerely yours,
J. L. Bernstein,
Principal

The World of William J

W. J. MAZANEK

DO ESKIMOES TAKE BATHS?
199
Lorro
WANTED!! SANTA CLAUS FOR DOUBLE PARKING
ZOO
95 DAYS TIL MY BIRTHDAY
WJ'59 MAZANEK '59
MY NAME IS BARRY, I'M GOING TO YALE.
MY NAME IS SHERRIL I'M GOING to BARNARD COLLEGE
I'M WILLIAM J., I'M GOING HOME

Holiday Spirit Sold in Boxes; Religious Significance Ignored

It is sad to realize that the great tradition of the Winter Holidays has been distorted practically past recognition. What were once joyful expectations have become nightmares of cheap advertising. If the season is ever again to have its real meaning, I think that we should consider carefully the things which have put it into the position it holds now.

Vicious commercialism, I believe, has been the holidays' greatest enemy. Usually, they suffer more from those who publicly extoll their virtues than from any other source.

Perhaps the greatest danger the holidays have faced is the bad taste exhibited in the days leading up to them. At this time of the year, instead of perhaps being reminded of the great principles which Christmas and Channukah represent, we are sickened by what the merchandisers try to pass off as "Holiday Spirit." Maybe I am in the minority, but I feel that the television jingles, the tawdry commercials, the laughing Santa Clauses saying, "Ho-ho sonny. Be a good boy and tell your moms and dads to buy crunchy flakes." are not in keeping with what this season should mean to us.

Both religious holidays in question represent struggles for uncompromising ideals. The Jews, who were fighting for freedom from the hypocritical tyranny of the Greeks, showed almost inhuman bravery in trying to live by their own moral code. Jesus Christ, introducing astonishingly humane ideas, by which we would all do well to live, found a hostile world unready and unwilling to accept his teaching. Out of these events grew the holidays which we know today. Both, originally, were true to the doctrines of both religions—emphasizing complete honesty with oneself, consideration for others, and above all, humility.

But how can anyone in the face of the blaring, brash claims we see made right and left around us today, associate the holidays with the tedious travesties that afflict them today? A mockery has been made of the entire holiday season.

The celebration of these holidays will not continue in this fashion, if public opinion demands a change. Rigged quiz shows, payola are on the way out. What about returning the holy days to their holiness?

Ben Folkman

Alumnews

Michael Bromer has been awarded the first Honors Scholarship of the Alumni Association of the Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. He has also received a Midwood H.S. Memorial Scholarship, a New York State Regents Scholarship, and a Dartmouth College Scholarship.

Lots of luck to Faith Linder and Ronnie Singer, both of the class of '58 on their engagement. Faith is an English literature major at Brooklyn College and Ronnie is attending Hofstra College.

Lester Scall, June, 1956, former Managing Editor of Argus, is currently Vice-Chancellor of Interfraternity Council and a member of the Student Judiciary at Brooklyn College.

Congratulations to Joyce Lyons who was married to Robert Marlin of Spring Valley, New York. Joyce, a former secretary of Archon, graduated from Midwood in 1956.

Jeffry Diamond, class of '57, has been awarded the Beta degree of Phi Society at Colgate University. Jeffry is majoring in zoology. He is a member of the Colgate Glee Club, on the dean's list, and vice-president of Eaton House, a living unit on campus .

Myron Golin ('56) is now terminating his service in the U.S. Army. During his enlistment, he was graduated from the Army Language School in California. He is currently serving in the National Security Agency.

SPOTLIGHT

Judy Padow is a girl with hobbies galore. In fact, she is always so busy doing things and going places, that her interview had to take place on the subway en route to a sing meeting, the library, and a dancing lesson.

Judy Padow

I began by asking her how she has been able to maintain such a high scholastic average (She belongs to Arista) and yet take such an active interest in school affairs? (Judy is an associate feature editor of Argus, captain of Boosters, and member of Archon). She replied, "What? Oh yes. No, I can't hear you!" (We were approaching Dekalb Avenue.)

After we finished waving to the conductor, I proceeded to question her about her dancing lessons. "Did you ever want to become a dancer?"

"Yes, cancer certainly is a tragic disease."

"No, Judy, DANCING . . . which kind do you prefer?" It was finally established that Judy will dance to any music that inspires her feet, and does modern, folk, square, and Israeli dancing equally well.

As an assistant dance teacher at a nursery school, she tried to interest children in this hobby which has given her so much pleasure. Last summer Judy spent some time at the English Country Dance Society Camp where she "learned that there are no racial, religious, or economic barriers among people with a common cultural bond."

"Well Judy," I said, "What else do you particularly like?"

"What? My bike? Oh yes, I go bike-riding often." "Bike riding???????"

"Yes, this summer I joined the American Youth Hostel and spent a most wonderful week bike-riding in the Pennsylvania Dutch Country."

We finally left the roar of the trains and headed for the library. On the way, we passed a music store, and suddenly I was walking alone. Where was Judy? She had stopped to buy that Beethoven piece she wanted to learn. Like all the Padows, Judy is an ardent music lover, and enjoys listening to and playing good music. She has studied the piano for seven years and last year won a district prize in the National Piano Teacher's Guild auditions.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent compiling a list of the initials of Judy's affiliations: AYH, MNYC, USY, BBG, EMJC. (See her for translations.)

As we parted at her door, I called to her, "What about the future?" She carefully spelled "B.I.H." (Barnard, I Hope.)

Ruth Aronowsky

INBAL PERFORMS AT CITY CENTER

The plaintive, dulcet tones of the flute, the angry peal of cymbals, the rhythmic beating of drums and tambourines, accompanied by the melodious chanting of human voices, afford a most unusual and colorful accessory to the Dance Theatre of Israel.

The company is called "Inbal", the Hebrew word for clapper of the bell. This troop has presented a series of orientally influenced dances for a two-week run at City Center, before continuing their tour of the United States and Canada.

Yemen, lying at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, was the home of a small Jewish community for two thousand years. The dancers of Inbal are all of this Jewish-Yemenite origin. They have incorporated biblical themes and the hearty spirit of Israel into the movements and symbolism of their ancient Yemenite dances, coming up with a new and thrilling approach to modern interpretive dance. Their delicate, doll-like movements and exquisite mime express the youthful bouyancy which is the underlying current of this group.

Needless to say, these movements are unlike anything in the traditional classical ballet syle.

"Desert", a sequence of ten short dances, is a portrayal of the fierce life of the desert: the search for the ever elusive water spring, the seemingly endless caravans, and the half-man, half-bestial life that one must live in order to survive in the harsh, unyielding desert sands. In this ballet, the primal emotions of love, hate, and jealousy, are also convincingly conveyed to the viewer. The choreographic ability and potential of Sara Levi-Tanai was especially revealed in the major dances, "Song of Deborah", "Desert" and "Sheba".

The evening proved to be most enjoyable and Inbal is highly recommended to those who wish to become acquainted with a truly novel and fascinating form of dance.

Zisla Taice

MEET YOUR TEACHER: MRS. WEISS

Formidable!!! Charmante!!! Gentille!!! Epatante!!! If translating these words presents no difficulty to you, indubitabtably you have met Mrs. Celia Weiss, one of Midwood's most delightful French teachers, and the person to whom these adjectives apply. In English, "versatility" is the word which can best describe her.

Mrs. Weiss' home must be a veritable hobby shop. In her attic is a leather workroom where she makes her own purses, belts, and other leatherware. Her jewelry, (earrings, bracelets, necklaces, and pins) is made by her husband. And some outfits which she models for her students each day in class are Celia Weiss originals.

Mrs. Weiss is a lover of that most delicious art—cooking. "Some people don't realize how creative it really is. One can love it if he doesn't consider it a routine thing." Creating original dishes, and baking various types of French pastries are but two of her many kitchen accomplishments. She also "specializes" in French, Italian, Armenian, Chinese, Greek, and American cuisine. It's no wonder that her son and official taster, Peter Weiss, decided to stay close to home, at Brooklyn College!

Mrs. Weiss

Le francais lui donne beaucoup de plaisir. She attended Hunter College where she "fell in love with French", and has been in love with it ever since. Four times she travelled to France: twice to visit Paris, once to study at the Sorbonne, and once to practice leathercraft with a French bookbinder. Reading literature from this country and listening to the music of its composers afford her much enjoyment. However, a love for languages is never confined to a love for only one. This French teacher speaks a bit of Italian, reads and understands Spanish and German, and used to comprehend Hebrew. "Incidentally, I also know some English!"

For an instructor to be able to create in her pupils enthusiasm, appreciation, and love for a subject, the teacher herself must possess these three attributes. Such are the qualities of Mrs. Weiss, and such are the qualities she has succeeded in developing in her students.

All those who have had her will confirm this, and inevitably they will also offer this valuable admonition . . . "Ne machez pas le 'schwang-gom' (chewing gum, that is) in the presence of Mrs. Celia Weiss."

Judy Padow

Midmoods . . . BARBARA WEINER

When I first came to this country, I decided that I would be the best American in the United States; I would visit all the famous places, learn all the American customs and cuss-words, salute American flags, write compositions on "What it is to be an American Citizen", eat frankfurters, play baseball, and buy stocks; I would know my way around.

. . . But I'm a miserable failure . . .

I have never been in Chinatown or to the Statue of Liberty; I don't know what "beatniks" and "squares" are; I don't know where "Nathan's" is; I don't know or care how many traffic accidents occur per hour within the largest city in America; I can't hit a homerun; I don't shop on Fifth Avenue; I get lost on Times Square; I take the wrong bus to school every day . . . and I don't even know the English word for "sputnik" . . . .

But I did try . . . at first. I used to go down to the docks in Sheepshead Bay and walk on and off the boats; I watched the fishermen fishing, cleaning, and selling; I watched the boys diving for coins in the filthy water; I rode my bicycle up and down, up and down the lengthy bay sidewalk; and back and forth on the Sheepshead Bay bridge.

. . . But I never really belonged. . . .

I haunted sports stadiums in the hope that the American spirit of competition might be contagious; I lived for three weeks on hamburgers and frankfurters only, under the illusion that these delicacies of America possessed special ingredients, which, once assimilated by my body, would include me among the initiated; I took long walks through the hilly Bronx, hoping, perhaps, to purge myself of any remaining foreignism; I even joined a street gang, believing it to be a manifestation of American brotherhood. Hopelessly did I persist . . . I never really belonged.

* * *

"The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, Our Lord".

Every time I ride the subway I crane my neck in order to read the Bible excerpts posted on the stations by courtesy of the Bible Society of New York. Since I read them each time I see them, I have committed to memory a number of disconnected biblical sayings, warnings, and prophecies.

Upon seeing one of these quotations as a caption under a picture or as a reference, I have always experienced the delight of accomplishment. It is as though by memorizing these sayings, I have made them my own.

* * *

Onion soup. Every time I think of Greenwich Village, I think of onion soup. You see, there's a little food shop on Eighth Street which gives away occasionally to spurts of generosity . . . or is it salesmanship? Symptomatic of these spurts is a little piece of paper attached to a glass window. On this significant parchment is the declaration that "free samples are being given out". The day I happened to see one of these, hot onion soup was to be served free to anyone who asked. Next time, it was Mandarin oranges, but they didn't interest me . . . not-at-all. . . .

AMIABLE ANT ASSAILED; MIDKID'S MIS-ANT-HROPY

An ant was crawling across my English notebook. As I picked up my pen to write, I paused, paralyzed at the sight of the coal-colored insect. My first instinct was to mangle the little creature which had so successfully distracted my attention. But, after giving the ant another glance, I found I couldn't.

I poked my neighbor and rudely pointed to my insect visitor. My chum shrugged with a sardonic grin and returned his attention to our English teacher who was enacting all the parts of "Macbeth" with the vigor of the Old Vic Company.

The ant stopped moving, and sat, or stood, (I really wasn't certain), on the "h" of "Macbeth" so that my hyphenated word now looked like "Mac-bet."

My wandering, inattentive mind soon saw myself as Gulliver, with a million ants crawling all over my body! NO! I just couldn't stand it! I couldn't let this ant live; I was now possessed with the preposterous idea of ants taking over the world!

Then it all seemed very ludicrous to me, for as I looked at the ant, I was certain he was smiling at me! How could I kill him?

"'Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow—'" She was Macbeth again! Then the bell rang, ending the period, and my teacher announced above the sound of slamming books, "And tomorrow we shall finish Act Five."

The class began to shuffle out of the room. My friend looked at me with an inquisitive stare, and said, "Well, are you coming?"

I pointed to the ant, who was now dormant on the notebook. My friend grinned, shrugged, said he would see me in the cafeteria, and left.

I was now alone in the classroom with the insect. I wanted to scream, "Do you mind getting off my English notebook?" I didn't. I then realized there was only one thing to do.

The ant could have been in pain, anyway, I tried to console myself. I gave the creature one last, doleful glance, and slammed shut my notebook—stamping out the life of the amicable innocuous ant. With a deep sigh, and a profound sadness, I gathered my books and joined the other Midkids in the hall.

Steve Saiken

Joyous Season Nears

As this year draws to a close, the western world prepares to greet one of its most joyous holiday seasons and to welcome in the new year. Christians around the globe will take part in the 1959th commemoration of the birth of Christ, while Jews will re-enact the colorful "Festival of Lights": Hanukah. New Year's resolutions will be made in the spirit of the season, some of them only to be forgotten or broken. It is significant in a world usually geared to utilitarian ideals, that most Americans will take time out to relax and to celebrate one of these two ancient and hallowed events with the traditional festivities.

It is with a quiet and inward happiness that many Jewish families will light the eight Hanukah candles and count off the days until the menorah is completely filled. The children will receive small gifts on each day of the festival and the culmination of the event will be a sober and fitting tribute to the long dead Macabees who were shown the Lord's Favor so long ago.

Although more colorful and widely spread, Christmas has a very great personal or religious message for many individuals too. The traditional carols will be sung out from every church steeple and will reverberate through the stalls of many a choir. Bright lights strung in many patterns will decorate the homes of numerous families and an ancient symbol of the holiday, the fir tree, will be seen in many homes. Santa Claus will bring the 'good' children presents. All of this outward display will be only a part of the celebration of the coming of the Christ Child, for the timeless phrase 'Peace on Earth to men of good will' will regain its profundity anew.

The holiday season means more than the celebrations, bright lights, and rising voices; it is a time set aside for men to reflect upon their lives and desires, and to meditate about the world around them.

Jeff Sadock

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WRITER REVEALS WOES OF BOOSTERS, CHEERLEADERS

You're a girl in Midwood. You wear an ensemble of blue and white touched off by a massive "M". You are one of the undoubtedly forgotten set of Midwood athletics. You faithfully attend all of your school's major athletic events. (Even when it means being in the rain.) You are one of a select few who lead the school in cheering the Middie boys to victory.

You're a Midwood Booster. You sit in the stands during a football game and help lead the school in the singing of the various songs of your alma mater. You wait anxiously for the half-time intermission, so you can get on the field and show your precision marching ability. You march proudly onto the field carrying your precious "shakers" and hoping that you don't get mud on your new white sneakers. You go through your routine on the field and you get the sensation that everyone is watching you, because you're out of step.

You spot the guy you know from the opposing school and you tell your friend, who is nearby, to look at him so she can see what "a doll" he is.

As you see the strips of blue and white crepe paper flying loose from your shakers, you wonder why the school can't get better ones.

You're a Midwood cheerleader and you stand on the sidelines of a basketball game. You watch closely for the next break in the game, so you can come onto the floor. You comb your hair for the tenth time, and then the time-out comes. You dash out in front of the crowd and start to cheer for the "sons of the blue and white." But you come out just in time for the referee to tell you to get off the court. But, you're a Midwood cheerleader and he's only a referee, so you finish your cheer.

You sometimes find that the crowd seems to be laughing at you. But it isn't till later that you find out that you were doing the wrong cheer at the time.

You have some trouble convincing your friends that you didn't slip and fall, because you were looking at the boy in the third row, but because the floor was very slippery.

You're a girl in Midwood; but you're also a Booster or a Cheerleader.

Mike Huss

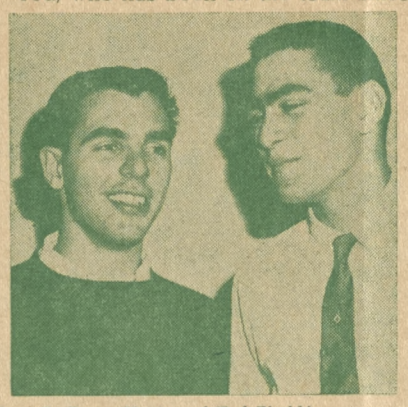
Knotty Problem . . . .

Men are on first and third with two out. The batter hits a slow bouncer to short. The shortstop fields the ball and flips it over to the second baseman just as the runner is sliding into the bag. The umpire calls the runner safe. But, he reverses his call when the runner slides past the base and is tagged out. If the runner from third scores before the umpire's reversal, does the run count?

Sportlight

As the 1959-60 high school basketball season gets under way, the Midwood Hoopsters are under the leadership of two high-spirited boys, senior Co-captains Roger Honig and Ted Fischkin.

Ted, who has been on the team since



L to R, Roger Honig and Ted Fischkin

his sophomore year, has always been interested in sports. He claims that this interest has been cultivated by his father, who was a Jefferson football player.

A key asset to the team, Teddy has proven himself valuable with his high scoring potential and fine defensive work. The 6'2", 180 pounder, who saw a lot of action last season, had this to say in comparing last year's team to the present one, "Although we might have had a more stable defense last year, this year's team is much more aggressive and with our good scoring punch we should outdo last year's 9-9 record."

Sporting an 84 percent average, Roger would like to go to Bucknell, where he hopes to study either dentistry or business administration. Roger has had the opportunity to display some leadership not only on the basketball court, but in his home room, where he has served as president. He has also participated in Sing, an activity which has given him a great deal of pleasure, even though he is not considered a true musician.

Since Erasmus is Midwood's traditional rival, and because it is his father's alma mater, Roger would get a special thrill from beating them this year. "If we don't get sloppy, and we play a good brand of ball, I think we can take them this year," says Roger.

Ted, who is determined to be a lawyer, hopes to attend Columbia next year. With all the effort he puts into basketball, Teddy has still managed to maintain an excellent scholastic record, as is shown by his membership in Arista. One of Ted's favorite subjects is social studies. When asked why, he replied; "I have had some fine teachers who have immensely inspired me in this field. I believe Mrs. Kelly, my present history teacher, is one of the best in the school."

Roger, a boy who likes to play all sports, follows the season. That is—in spring, he plays baseball, in the fall, football, and in winter, basketball. He played Junior Varsity Basketball for Midwood in his sophomore year, and joined the Varsity as a junior. His father, like Ted's dad, played high school ball. In Mr. Honig's case, it was for Erasmus' Basketball Team.

Both boys, Ted and Roger, are looking forward to a successful season. They feel that along with Erasmus, the team that will either "make them or break them" is Tilden. "If we can take Tilden, we should finish the season with a very impressive record," exclaimed the co-captains.

It is not very often that Midwoodites can boast of two basketball co-captains as capable as those mentioned above, but this year, the whole school is proud of Ted Fischkin and Roger Honig. We would like to wish them and the team good luck.

ARCHIE SADER

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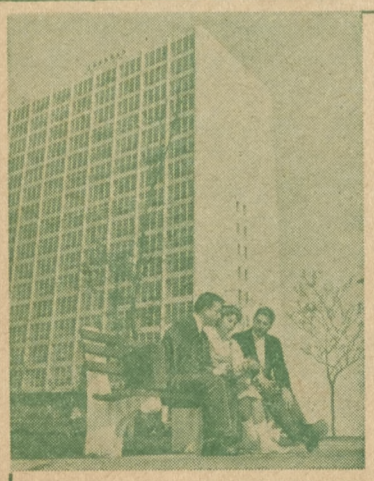

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Pinmen Tie for First Place; Yet Lose Playoff and Title

As the bowling season came to an end, Midwood's pinmen were tied with Wingate for first place in their division. Both teams finished the season with a record of nine wins and three defeats. A playoff match was played to determine the division champion. Despite the excellent bowling of Allan Appel, Midwood lost the first two games and the match.

According to Mr. Edward Delaney, chairman of the Boys Health Ed. Dept. and coach of the bowling team, "Allan Appel has been our best player this season." Al has the highest average on the team, a commendable 165. Don Block, Al Willinsky and Al Vladimer were all instrumental in marking up a 9-3 record this year. They maintained averages of 161, 164, and 158 respectively. The teams which have been beaten by Midwood this season are: Erasmus, twice, Tilden, twice, Sheepshead, twice, Hamilton, twice, and Madison. Among Midwood's three losses were two matches to Wingate, excluding the playoff, and one match to Madison.

Coach Delaney was pleased with the team's performance throughout the season, but was very disappointed when they lost the playoff. The scores were close, 602 to 626, and 691 to 729. Al Appel was the high scorer in the match with scores of 189 and an impressive 203. When asked about next year's team, Mr. Delaney replied, "There will be a whole new team next year, completely different." This year's starting team of Willinsky, Appel, Vladimer and Block will all be graduated from Midwood this June.

The amazing thing about this year's squad is that for two of the boys on the team, it was their first year bowling with the pinmen. The boys were the two high scorers, Al Appel and Al Willinsky. Only two of last year's second place team were back; Don Block and Al Vladimer.

Bob Mohl

Mermen End Season; Bergman Top Scorer; Coach Rebuilds Team

The Midwood High School swimming team has wrapped up its competitive season for this year. In spite of earnest efforts and hard fought battles, the Midwood squad did not appear favorably in the division standing. There were, however, many outstanding single performances.

The swimmers yielded to the powerful squads of Madison, John Jay, Curtis, Lincoln, New Utrecht, and Erasmus High Schools. In the contests with Erasmus and New Utrecht, the Midwood team was defeated by a painfully small margin.

Participating mermen of the season were Richard Wolfson, Larry Bergman, Jim McNally, Malcolm Miller, Jeff Nagelberg, Dave Chadorf, Larry Entel, Mark Crane, Jim Glass, Mike Ginsburg, Ellis Rock, Howie Rudin, Don Scannapieon, Mike Gulubov, Dave Teichman, Steve Trink, John Colucci, Dan Arick, Fred Goodman, Steve Sprin, Steve Strausberg, Steve Weiss, and Ken Jonas. The squad's highest scorer of the season was a junior, Larry Bergman. Other high scorers on the squad were Jim Glass, Jeff Nagelberg, and Steve Weiss.

Swimmers Richard Wolfson and David Chadorf have excelled in the backstroke event, Mark Crane, Larry Entel and Mike Golubov in the freestyle event, Jim Glass in the distance event, and Jeff Nagelberg, Howie Rudin and Jim McNally in the diving event.

Mr. Solomon, coach of the team, explained that this season was a one for rebuilding the squad. By adding many younger boys to the roster, Mr. Solomon has filled the ranks left void by the graduating seniors. He will be able to depend upon these boys to provide the impetus for a successful Midwood team of the future.

Mr. Solomon attributes the team's failure to function efficiently this year to tough divisional competition, the graduation of many lettermen last year, the fact that Midwood does not have a pool of its own to practice in, and the inexperience of many swimmers in competitive swimming. When questioned as to the team's future chances of success he replied, "I think that in the next few years Midwood High School can expect winning seasons."

CAGERS SLOW TO START

By LENNY BERMAN

The Midwood basketball team has completed one-third of its 1959 season with a 1-5 record. Midwood's lone victory thus far has been an impressive 63-36 romp over Sheepshead High. They have been defeated by non-division foes Eastern District, Fort Hamilton, John Jay and have dropped league encounters to Erasmus and Wingate.

On December 1, Midwood played its first P.S.A.L. game. Its opponent was an always-tough Erasmus squad. As the game got under way, the Dutchmen, capitalizing on team speed, built up a 14-7 advantage, which was increased to 42-14 at the end of the half. With the advent of the third quarter, it appeared that the rejuvenated Midwood forces might make a comeback. Thanks to the fine scoring of co-captain Ted Fishkin, Midwood countered with 7 straight points. However, the comeback was short-lived as Erasmus again found its potent scoring punch. The team won the game with a 73-41 score. Leading the Midwood scoring parade were Ted Fishkin with 9 points, Mike Cohen with 7, and Walter Potterton with 6.

After the game, Coach Fried had this to say about his squad. "I am very much satisfied with the team's progress. Our main weakness is inexperience, which has cost us in every game that we have played. This is a rebuilding year and I expect the boys to improve as the season progresses."

Abbey driving in

On December 4, Midwood encountered its second league opponent. They hosted a highly regarded Wingate team. Led by their all-city center, Roger Brown, who scored 29 points and acrobatically blocked many Midwood shots, Wingate rolled up a 90-52 victory. Midwood could not match the prolific scoring pace set by Wingate, despite the fine all around play of Mike Cohen, who scored 16 points (14 of which were in the first half) and Jerry Feinstein who tallied 11. Also scoring for Midwood, were Roger Honig and Pete Abbey with 7 points and 6 points respectively.

Kickoff

KEN KRAMER

Midwood sports are to be praised. The athletes themselves, the coaches, and even the good old Midwood cynic-of-a-fan deserve a pat on the back. Midwood is a school in which the absence of a "superstar" in any of the three major, baseball, football and basketball, has been the accepted situation for many years. For this reason, it has been necessary for every man on a Midwood ballclub to be at his best if we were to win. Furthermore, since we lack that one great ballplayer who would attract high school fans to a ballgame rather than a fraternity party, the only other drawing card remaining is a winning team. Such a team at Midwood, unfortunately, is the exception, rather than the rule. Thus, it is felt in this corner, that the recent surge in attendance at our athletic events is due to a very commendable rise in the school spirit of the students. Such school spirit has been the goal of every school and faculty ever since the institution of athletic teams. It is a good sign when a team is given all-out support even if it is not a consistent victor.

One must also remember that a ballplayer often senses a lack of student support for his team, and his performance, unconsciously, may suffer. It must be realized by the fan who will root exclusively for a winning team that his support can sometimes make a mediocre club a good one.

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There is one discordant note to be struck, however. The readers who have followed KICKOFF for the past two years may remember one which stated that a desire to obtain a team jacket may sometimes lead to a boy to participate in athletics. To those who have attended any of the basketball games this year, it may seem as if the jacket craze has spread to the Midwood Booster and Cheerleader squads.

On Friday, November 20, our basketball team opposed John Jay here at Midwood. Exactly three cheerleaders were present and not many more Boosters, (who until recently have shown none of the pep or initiative exhibited by opposing squads). The only possible excuse for his travesty might be that the girls were studying for their midterms, in which case they should be praised for their industry, but certainly not for their school spirit or sense of loyalty to the team. The point is that if the very organizations that symbolize student support for a team do not support it wholeheartedly, why should anyone else?

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Mike Cohen 6'4" center of the basketball team, turned in the outstanding performance of the year on December 4 against a Wingate team led by Roger Brown that is destined for the Garden. Scoring 16 points, and playing a fine defensive game, Mike showed he had the ability and court sense to rank among the finest in Midwood's history. He is a boy who possesses a tremendous amount of desire and is certainly a credit to our school.

GUNNERS WIN 3 OUT OF 4

Led by team captains Sam Schneider and Arthur Morris, the Midwood rifle team compiled a fine 3-1 record in the month of November. A perfect record with victories over Madison, John Jay, and Hamilton by scores of 804-739, 809-649, and 846-768, respectively, was marred by a 866-816 loss to Fort Hamilton.

In the most recent encounter against Hamilton, sharpshooters Sam Schneider and Arthur Morris, with scores of 179 and 176 respectively, paced the Middie marksmen to a 846-768 victory. Howard Altman, with a score of 170 and David Soskis with a score of 164, also figured prominently in the Midwood triumph.

After dropping a close decision to Lincoln, the riflemen rebounded with back-to-back victories over Madison and John Jay. In the latter contests, team anchor men Morris and Schneider, with scores of 177 and 176, respectively, again led the Middie attack. Outstanding marksmen for Midwood, in the victorious Madison match, were Schneider, Morris, and Gralnick.

In a match held on November 24, a skillful squad from Fort Hamilton handed the Midwood marksmen their lone loss for the month of November. The score at the end of the match found Midwood on the short end of a 866-816 count.

With two games remaining on the schedule, the rifle team is in a tie for third place in its division with a 6-4 record. The remaining games are to be played against Lincoln, who beat us in a match held earlier this season by 14 points, and Madison, who previously proved an easy conquest for the Middies.